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THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1858.

Twenty years ago, abolitionism was confined to certain quarters in the non-slaveholding States, having but few followers, and they themselves faintly without power and without influence. It was a "little cloud no bigger than a man's hand" upon our political sky, and attracted no particular attention. A little later, political demagogues, with the unrighteous purpose of breaking down Congress, introduced the subject into Congress under the guise of rejecting petitions asking for the abolition of slavery. Immediately abolitionism commenced to attract additional adherents, the "cloud" began to spread and deepen in hue—and from that time forth anti-slavery fanaticism has been struggling to attain supreme political power. It has gone on from one extreme to another, until it has discovered churches whose members North and South, had long lived in the happiest relations social and religious, blessed of Heaven, and challenging the good will of all men. It has debauched the pulpit of the non-slaveholding States, and reduced the ministry to the degraded condition of mere panders to the passions. It has stolen into the councils of statesmen, corrupted their leaders, and lured large portions of the masses into the worship of the Elion Image, around whose shrine it shames mankind by performing its grade rites. It has stolen into the ranks of the old conservative Whig party, and is fast performing the same office for the democracy. Under its poisonous influences, the American party, which arose so resplendently and promised so much of good to the country, which it had nearly reached the zenith of its aspirations. It success then has but inflamed its zeal, inspired it with new hopes, and excited it to new efforts. It has also become more wary, and seeks now to profit by the mistakes of that campaign.

That this is a true, though brief, sketch of the progress of abolitionism—under its various guises—will be denied by none. We need not refer to the criminal partisan intrigues of the democracy, which have aided to build it up, until its colossal proportions cast its shadow upon the whole. It is now dealing simply with the fact that abolitionism has grown, in less than a quarter century, from an insignificant faction to a mighty power, grasping, with fair chances of success, at the reins of government, and do not propose to enter into the reasons for this startling growth. Having attained these proportions, and conscious of its strength—having spread its nets, and assured of its gain—it is probable that abolitionism will be content with the least of its pretensions. With its past history, and its imperious present demands, before us, it is important to expect it to abate "one jot or tittle" of its purposes? As well might we expect the ruthless tornado in its devastating sweep. No, not abolitionism has to be met and throttled. It has entered the lists and challenges an encounter. It must be slain, or the constitution of our common country given up a spoil. We cannot escape the issue, if we would. Forced upon us, it must be met. There can be no truce—no parity.

Looking over the field, and finding things in this condition, we must confess that we are astonished to find among our trusty waiters upon Providence, those who think there can be ought to be, a reconstruction, or a reformation of the line of battle. We shall not assume that those hopeful spirits are either frightened at the probable result of the battle, or desire to ally themselves with the common enemy of the South. We think, however, that all the lights before us, that their counsels are impotent. Americans can serve their country best by standing their ground, and keeping their colors flying. The American flag, with its stars and stripes, and beautiful stripes, is unfurled by a counter stripe of any hue, is the flag for us at least. We are neither weary of it, nor of American principles. On the contrary, amidst all the gloom which hangs over the country, they stand out like a bright constellation, giving us hope and encouragement. Let others do as they please, go where they list, and ally themselves with whom they may, we purpose to maintain our position as Americans, to keep our party, and its principles separate and distinct, a nucleus around which all who cling to the Constitution and would deprive no part of the people of the rights it guarantees to them, may gather for safety as the storm progresses. We believe the great body of the American party will stand with us, for potent as Abolitionism has become, we do not believe with Mr. Sewall, when he announced on the 30th of April, to some men in the Senate Chamber: "At last a new voice issues from our region, from the South, from the State of South Carolina, and protests against your further progress in this mad enterprise of extending slavery; and admonishes you that it must end with failure. The cohorts are gathering in the South; the men of moderation and conservatism, who, as they have."

"HERETOFORE MODERATE IN FAVOR OF SLAVERY,"

"KEY AGAINST FREEDOM, will not be obliged to consistency with their past and self-interest, character, and their abundant patriotism, to moderate."

"ERATE AGAINST US IN FAVOR OF FREEDOM, AND RISE UP UNANIMOUSLY AGAINST 'SLAVERY!' We believe that this is a libel upon the 'moderation and conservatism' of the American party, if not of other parties, and that we shall see them rallied under our own standards, sparing Mr. SEWALL, and all of his class, who like him would 'pour the poison of dissension' of impious into the ears, and tempt them from their duty. Such is our faith, and upon it we shall be content to rest our cause."

The Central Route Between New Orleans and the North.

The most direct route from New Orleans to Cincinnati, and thence to the various points North and East of the city, lies with the projected line of Railroad from New Orleans to Florence, from Florence to Nashville, and from Nashville to Cincinnati, by way of Louisville or Lexington. It is almost an air line. An air-line dropped from New Orleans would not leave Florence or Nashville twenty miles out of its course. Extended North-eastward from Cincinnati it would strike Cleveland, Buffalo and Niagara. This is a great fact. A railroad has been projected, and surveyed the whole of this route; and all of it will be completed in a short time, except about one hundred and twenty-miles. This gap will open between New Orleans, St. Louis, and Aberdeen, Minn. This gap will in a great measure destroy the route. This is another great fact—greater in importance to the Louisville and Nashville, the Tennessee and Alabama, and the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Roads, than any other relating to their interests—and greater in importance to Nashville, as a city, than any other in all the railroad systems of the country. It is vital to all the parties named. We do not mean to do, not magnify, For, however, what is going on to rob this route of its geographical advantages, and to paralyze what has already been accomplished, and will ultimately thrust a large proportion of the line which may be

constructed, out of any great system. "The great route of the Summer Travel," as announced in all the New Orleans papers, and reiterated by those of Memphis and Knoxville, is as follows: From New Orleans to Jackson, and thence either to Vicksburg and up the river to Memphis, or to the Mississippi and Charleston, and thence to Knoxville, the East Tennessee and Virginia, to Lynchburg, to Richmond, Washington, &c. Or from Memphis to Cairo, and thence anywhere by rail, West, North and East. The natural central course is thus taken out of the face of the map, and the great heart of Tennessee and Kentucky, with their mammoth cornucopia of grain, stock and provisions for the planters of the South, and all their rich and picturesque and inviting scenery, are shut up to the eye of the traveler and from the markets of the South, except as they have made their way heretofore. Who then is there to deny these great facts, or to refuse to see and understand them? That far-sighted statesman, James Buchanan, first saw the advantage of this splendid enterprise, fully comprehended them. Having completed the route to Canton, he saw another step, which was that, if the road was stopped at Canton, that two hundred miles would be fed by all those roads, which threaten to sap all the energy from the remainder of the main line; hence the necessity to come to Florence; hence the necessity to come to Florence, and behind those of last year, and the year previous, as shown by the following table: The largest we ever had in that month. For the month of April, 1857, we had 14,300,000. For the month of May, 1858, we had 14,300,000. For the month of June, 1858, we had 14,300,000. For the month of July, 1858, we had 14,300,000. For the month of August, 1858, we had 14,300,000. For the month of September, 1858, we had 14,300,000. For the month of October, 1858, we had 14,300,000. For the month of November, 1858, we had 14,300,000. 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